(a) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MNISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER) (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Whereas direct connections are al ways convenient for the travelling public, it is not always possible to provide as many direct connections as desired.

(c) and (d) Government have not felt the necessity of declaring any domes tic airport, including Hyderabad, as an international airport.

Medical College at Nanded

3493. SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN: Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FA MILY WELFARE be pleased to state**:**

(a) whether Government of Maharashtra have sought the permission of the Cen-tial Government in starting a new medical college at Nanded; and

(b) if so, what is the decision taken thereon?

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE (KUMARI SAROJ KHAPA- Yes. Sir.

(b) The present policy of the Govern-ment of India in general is not to encourage the setting up of new Medical Colleges in the country as the present out turn of the medical graduates every year from the existing medical colleges is considered sufficient to meet the medical manpower requirements of the country.

Safety of AI crew members

3494. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPEN DRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIA TION be pleased to state:

whether his attention has been drawn to the demand made by the Air India Cabin Crew Assiciation for urgent step- to ensure safety of its flight crew; and

(b) if so, the details of the action taken by Government in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF TOURISM (SHRI JAG-DISH TYTLER): (a) and (b) The Air India Cabin Crew Association had written to the Director General of Civil Aviation that Air India Management has been utilising untrained employees. This communication was probably written in view of the fact that other personnel were utilised by Air India Management when the Cabin Crew resorted to industrial action. While utilisting other personnel, the Management ensured that they had gone through the laid down training, and safety was never compromised.

'Rural integrated digital network' ia (VI.I'

3495. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to bring some districts of Madhya Pradesh under the coverage of "Rural Integrated Digital Network"; and

(b) if so, the details thereof along with the names of districts proposed under the R.I.D.N, and by when they are likely to be covered?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) Bhopa1/Sehore (Composite) Distts, have been identified under the Shell Plan for the proposed 'IDN' Scheme. The scheme is proposed to be implemented within 7th Five Year Plan subject to availability of resources and Equipment.

Late running of IA flights between Bombay and Lucknow

.3496. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPEN-DRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVI-ATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an Indian Airlines Boeing flight from Lucknow to